INTERNATIONAL

Proceedings of the Late Law Congress at Antwerp.

DOCTRINE OF CONTINUOUS SEA VOYAGES.

United States Supreme Court Decisions Criticised.

EGYPT'S MIXED TRIBUNALS.

Conclusions on the Subject of General Average.

ANTWERP, Sopt. 7, 1877. The Congress for the Reform and Codification of the Law of Nations has been sitting here for the last week. Many of its discussions have been of very deep faterest and affect future legislation. Among the most important papers read was one of Sir Traver. I wiss, of which, as it refers to an American case, I give you the following pretty full summary :--

Sir Travers Twiss selected as his subject the doctrine of "Continuous Voyages," which found its most remarkable expression in the case of the Springbok.
The paper may be summed up as a protest against this poctrine, as inconsistent with both the declaration of common sense and the interests of nations. He begins by pointing out that the object of European Powers in making the Declaration of Paris was to mitigate the restrictions which the occurrence of war between two or more pations imposes on the commerce of neutrals. He then traces the changes which have occurred in the construction of the laws of maritime war since the close of last century.

He points out that as early as 1794 Sir William Scott and Sir John Nicholl, in a letter to Mr. Jay, the American Minister in London, laid it down as a rule of English prize courts that the evidence with regard to the character of a ship should, in the first place, come from the ship's papers on board and the testimony of the master and the principal officers, and he shows that the rule was adopted and approved by Mr. Jus lice Story; that it continues to be the rule of the

English Prize Court up to the present day and was vigorously observed during the Crimean war. He also shows that the French Prize Regulations are founded on the same principal. When the case of a ship appears doubtful it is left at present to discretion of the Prize Court whether not further evidence should be received. He suggests as an improvement upon this that in all doubtful cases the production of ferther evidence by grace. The Decisration of Paris was intended to establish uniformity of dectrine on the subject of the Travers Twiss points out that this object cannot be luifilled until there is a settlement of the rules upon the interpretation to be given the terms, "contraband war" and "effective blockades." He complains that the term has recently obtained in the prize courts of the United States an enlarged interpretation in a sense unfavorable

trals. And if, he asserts, the interpretation given by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the Bermuda should be adopted the Declaration of Paris will be little better than diplomatic waste paper. CONTINUOUS VOYAGES The doctrine of continuous voyages is, in his

logical consequences the commerce of neutral nations will be hampered in a way never before submitted to.

In support of this proposition he quotes the following words of Mr. Evaris, we the Secretary of State:-"The rule thus established gives to the cruisers and the prize courts a wider and more uncontrolled sweep of interference of commerce between proscribed neubetween neutral and belligerent ports," Tracing the origin of this fiction of continuous voyages, Sir Travers Twiss finds it in what is known as "The rule of the War of 1756." According to this rule a subject of a neutral State cannot trade with the colonies of a belligerent State, which was denounced by the English courts. It was determined to disregard the calling at an intermediate port, and so the doctrine of continuous voyages arose; but Sir Travers contends that the doctrine laid down by Lord Stowell is altogether different from that adopted in recent decisions by the American prize court. Lord. Stowell, seconding to Sir Travers, never condemned a established and unless it was discovered on its voyage not to belong to the neutral but to the hostile port.

The decision of the American prize court, on the contrary, in the first pince condemned the vessel on its way between two neutral ports, and second assumed its intention of an ulterior voyage to an enemy's port. Sir Travers goes on to say :--

IMMEDIATE INTERESTS. "The war now raging gives a peculiar interest to questions affecting the rights of neutral commerce. and if any serious changes are made by a great Power in the law of contraband and blockade it behoves merchants to make themselves acquainted with the changes, and neutral governments to determine whether they will acquiesce in them or not. Before the American war it had been commonly assumed that it a neutral port was the bond fibe destination of a neu-tral ship, and the termination of the voyage in which rise was captured, neither the ship nor the cargo, it the ship was neutral property, could be

has surject has been went stated by Strandard Casey, the Coref Justice of Ceyton, in his 'Frist Platform of International Law,' from which I cite:—
''The subject of the proof of hostile destination of contraband goods is one attended with considerable difficulty, and questions on it seem to multiply in in-

contraband goods is one attended with considerable confidents, and questions on it seem to multiply in future wars."

Sir Travers than proceeded to quote from the British Admirasty's "Manual of Prize Law" in which it is Maide that a vessel's destination should be considered secural if both the port to which she is to call in the course of her voyage is neutral.

DESTINATION.

"A vessel's destination should be considered hostile if either the port to which she is to call in the course of her voyage to hostile, or if, in any part of her voyage she is to go to the enomy's fleet at sea. It frequency happens that a vessel's destination is expressed in her papers to be dependent upon contingencies. In such case the destination is expressed in her papers to be dependent upon contingencies, in such case the destination should be presumed heatile if any one of the ports which, under any of the contingencies, she may be intended to touch or go to, be hostile; but this presumption may be rebutted by clear proof that her master has definitely abundoned a nostile destination and is pursuing a neutral one. The destination of the vossel is conclusive as to the destination of the goods on board." The latter of these rules—namely, that the destination of the cargo—has been, art Travers remarks, violated in recent American decisions, and most notoriously in the case of the Bermuda. Sir Travers next points out that of contraband. He points out that on this question of blockage the Continental Powers are itse strict that of contraband. He points out that on this question of blockage the Continental Powers are itse strict. that this doctrine of continuous voyages has been extended to the law of blockade as well as to that of contraband. He points out that on this question of blockade the Continental Powers are less strict that England and a fortion than the Uniter States, According to the Continental view a vessel can only be seized when, having been warned off on her approach to the line of blockade, she persists in attempting to break through it. Great Britain holds that a vessel may be soized at any point of her voyage if it be known that she as actually bound for a port that is blockaded. But the United States go further, for they hold, as in the case of the Springbos, that the cargo may be selzed, even although the vessel be bound for a neutral port, if there he a suspicion that the cargo will alterward be transmitted to a blockaded port. This decision, he says, has taken all the jurists of Europe by surprise and will impose on neutral trade more burdensome restrictions than they ever were subjected to before. To the decision on the Springbook case Sir Iravers brings this further polycation that, whereas the rule hitterto has been to coming the ship itself, the captors in this case were allowed to bring forward extraneous evidence. He quoies in strong condemnation of this proceeding some remarks of Mr. Evarts, who was counsel for the flaimants in the Springbok case. Sir Iravers gives the

HISTORY OF THE SPRINGBOK CASE. This vesses, a British bark, was while on its way from London to Nassau, in the usined of New Providence, a British possession, edized and captured by the United State ship-of-war the Schoma, and both

preme Court, where the snip was released, but the cargo was retained. Sir Travers maintains that the cargo was just as much entitled to release as the ship, and quotes several authorities to show that contrabend should be seized in Agyande delicto—that is to say, while actually on its way to a bastile port. He then goes on to counder what effect the Springbok decision will have upon the commerce of neutral countries, and quotes Mr. Evaris to show that it will affect America quite as seriously as Eugand or Italy.

Sir Travers also considers the offect of the doctrine of continuous voyages upon the neutral States in the present war. He takes up the case of a cargo of sait-petre. This is collected for the most part in Bengal and London is the great entrepot for its supply to other nations of the world. A vessel going from Calcutta to London with a cargo of sait-petre would be, of course, proceeding from one neutral port to another; but under the doctrine of continuous voyages the vessel could be seized if there were any ground for suspicion that the cargo was ultimately destined for transshipment to St. Petersburg. He furthermore points out the strange paradox in the doctrine for that a vessel of the kind described could not be seized if it were on its way from Calcutta to Hamburg in place of to London, although it might be clear that St. Petersburg was the ultimate destination of the cargo; be cause in this case the cargo would have to be forwarded by railway to St. Petersburg. For it is only when a cargo is to be sent by sea to the belligerent port that the law is applied. Finally he points out that this doctrine directly encourages that system of paper blockade against which one of the clauses of the Declaration of Paris is especially directed.

Sir Travers concludes his paper with the following observations:—

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Whatever may be the correct interpretation of the fourth article of the Declaration of Paris, and whatever effect may be practically given to it by the Powers who are parties to it, one thing may be affirmed for certain, that it was the intention of those who drew up that declaration to mitigate and not to aggravate the restraint imposed upon the commerce of neutrals by the blockade of an enemy's ports. Great Britain and the United States of America had, until then, been content to enforce against neutral merchants the consistancing of their property upon proof of some constructive attempt on their part to violate a blockade, it has remained for the younger sister, under her extraordinary difficulties, to initiate the dostrine of constructive intention, on the part of a neutral merchant, to violate a blockade and to subject him to the confiscation of his property, not upon the evidence of any present voyage of the ship and cargo, in which the ship and cargo have been intercepted, but upon the procumption of a future voyage of the cargo alone to a blockade port after it has been landed from the ship at a neutral port. It will be idle for the future instortan of the law of nations to cite in evidence of the greater midness of modern maritime warfare toward ocean commerce the concessions which have been made under the Declaration of Paris in layor of enemy's property laden on board the same ship is to be liable to confiscation under the general law, if it be not repugnant to common sense, it may at least to said, in the language of the Roman satirist:—

Dat veniam cervis, vexat censura columbus.

Dat veniam corvis, vexat censura colum

Dat veniam corvis, vexat censura columbus.

A PRACHICAL VIEW.

At the conclusion of the paper by Sir Travers Twiss, Professor Sheldon Amos read a paper on a Kindred subject and arrived at kindred conclusions. He declared that the interdependence of more important States on each other for the first necessaries of life rendered the indiscriminate pillage of an enemy's trade too futile and succidal a policy to be any longer reckoned among the necessities of naval warfare. He scouted the idea that the military gains were at all in proportion to the commercial disadvantages.

A discussion then took place on the merits of the two papers.

A discussion then took place on the merits of the two papers.

Mr. Glover, of Hull, said he could not join with Sir Travers Twiss in the gloomy view he took of the consequences of the decision of the American judges. The United States were not a party to the Frenty of Paris. But America had offered to go one step further than the declaration, and it was England which held back. Under the deciaration a blockade must be effective, but the blockade of the Black Sea at present would be no blockade, but a mere paper notification. That was a violation of the declaration attached to the treaty.

That was a violation of the declaration attached to the treaty.

Dr. Tristram thought the doctrine established by the decision in the Springbok case might be said to have added a new terror to war.

Dr. Thompson, of Berlin, as an American subject, regretted that he could give no legal explanation of the Judgments at the severity of the judgments regainst neutrals in the English prize courts by the lervid excitement caused by the French war. This might so far account for what happened in America. His countrymen were at that time lighting for all that was dearest to themselves and their children. Judges were but men, and could not fail unconsciously to be influenced by the intensity of public leching.

Dr. Bredius, of The lingue, said that England was to biame for the present state of international law on this subject. What should be done was to induce her to accept the proposal that had been made by the United States for the better protection of insertal shipping

opinion, a mere fiction of law, and if pursued to its

An interesting discussion took place on the mixed

An interesting discussion took place on the mixed tribunass of Egypt

M. Dutricux, a Belgian lawyer, resident in Cairo, said it was important to draw a distinction between mixed tribunals iske ino e of Egypt, which consisted of natives and foreigners, and international tribunals which were formed of the reagion of the Consular Courts into one jurisdiction, for the use of the foregoers of all nationalities, and without the participation of the local authority. He considered the fact that natives endeavored to have their differences settled by transferring their rights under their contracts to Europeans showed the confidence inspired among them by the new judicial system. system.

Ar. Scott pointed out that the original idea of their

creation was due to the present Khedive and his Min-ister, Nubar Pacha, and their persistency, spread over ten years, alone brought the courts into being. The peculiar extra-territorial rights given to the Europeans in Egypt made it becessary to obtain the consent of all the Great Powers, and the delays of diplomacy more than once threatened to be fatal, while franco-tierman war caused the whole project to franco-tierman war caused the whole project to Frageo-German war caused the whole project to remain in suspense for several years. However, the earnest advocacy of its promoters brought the plan finally to maturity, and the Egyptian international tribunals were opened in 1876. In each of the Courts of First Instance three European judges sit with two natives, and in the Appeal Court five Europeans are associated with three natives. Their jurisdiction is only of a civil and commercial nature, and criminal questions are determined on the old system. All civil and commercial questions between native and native, or foreigner and foreigner of the same nationality, are also outside the new jurisdiction, the countries represented in the Egyptian magistracy comprise England, Germany, Austria, Russia, Italy, America, Beiginn, Helland, Denmark, Sweden and Greece. The codes are substantially the French codes, subject to certain mondifications in favor of superior brevity. Mr. Scott then pointed out that at present these courts were really international, only dealing with mixed questions, and purely the creation of treaty for a tentative period of five years. They cannot be considered a final reform of the system of justice in the country as long as they do not dear with purely native questions, and are wholly without penal jurisdiction. At the same time they are doing good work and popularizing the idea of right and equity in a land where justice the documents of the opinions expressed in tuose papers.

The final question to which I will aided is that of GENERAL ATERAGE.

A committee from the main body of the fissociation

A committee from the main body of the disociation was appointed to consider the means of reforming and codifying the law of nations on this question. After many debates the committee adopted a report, of which the following are the principal paragraphs: many debates the committee adopted a report, of which the following are the principal paragraphs:—
Your committee adopted as the basis of their discussion the body of rules framed for a similar purpose at York on 1834, and known by the mane of the "Tork rules." They first revised those rules in detail, and then proceeded to censider what additions, if any, sound be made to them. The aiterations which your committee have made in the York rules are as follows;—I. The Brist York rule, which admitted into general average one kind only of deck-load jettison—namely, that of wood goods—was ancrea, and the rule now stands that "No jettison of deck cargo shall be made by dead as general average." 2. To the third York rule, which provided that dashage done by the measures taken to extinguish a fire on shiphorad shall be treated as general average, your committee have added the restriction that no compensation shall be made for damage done by water to packages which have been on fire. 3. From the secentia and eighth york rules, which, after providing that in certain cases the cost of reloading cargo and leaving a port of relige man the crew's wages and provisions while in such post shall be treated as general average, exempted from contribution to such general average, any goods that height suve been sold at the port of refue, or, your committee have laid it down that the gross freight shall contribute have laid it down that the gross freight shall contribute have laid it down that the gross freight shall contribute have laid it down that the gross freight shall contribute have laid it down that the gross freight shall contribute. After full conslovation of a large number of proposed additional rules your committee have come to the equitation of the port clarges and crews' wages as would not have been industries of your committee. After full conslovation of a large number of proposed additional rules your committee have come to the conclusion that they would sheep in a large number of proposed additional rules your commit

SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS AT HAVRE.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR OBSERVATIONS FOR VERY-FYING THE HERALD WEATHER PREDIC-TIONS-PROJECTS FOR ADVANCING METEORO-LOGICAL SCIENCE. PARIS, August 30, 1877.

The following despatch was received at the HERALD

Sureau to-day from Havre :--"Yesterday evening this city was again illuminated,

M. Levasseur gave a lecture at the theatre on the subject of 'The United States,' which was loudly applauded by a criticant and numerous audience, At the same time the Scientific Society of Havre was assembled at the Hotel de Ville and came to some very imperiant decisions. The session was an extraordi nary one and decided to postpone the proposed formation of a geographical and commercial society in Havre. The society also resolved to request the Transatlantic Steamship Company to order that meteoro-

logical observations should be taken on board their steamers, for the purpose of verifying the Hemalib weather predictions cabled to Europe. In the evening there were grand illuminations during the visit of the society to the Aquarium. This morning the various sections of the society met for the purpose of consulting about the projects which might be submitted to the general assembly. The Meteorological Section demands an inquiry into the best means of remedying the inferiority of the French meteorological system, and proposes to have meteorological observations taken on the Gifard balloon during the coming Universal Exposition in Pars. It is also proposed to establish a line of telegraph between the observatory at Nansouty, on the Fie du Midi, and Bagnéres. There was a general reunion at the society at the Hatel de Ville for the purpose of closing the session of 1877.

"In the evening the bands of the garrison, in playing the grand "retreat" which summons the soldiers to return to burracks, were accompanied by a torchight procession in honor of the Scientific Society, the departure of the members for Rouen by a seine steamer taking place at the same time. A splendir reception has been prepared for them by the citizens of Rouen. The members adopted an address returning thanks to the Transulantic Steamship Company for the hospitality given them on board."

THE HARVEST MOON AND EQUI-

CONJUNCTION OF MARS AND SATURN TO-NIGHT-OUR SATELLITE AT PRESENT IN ALL HER GLORY-A SECOND MOON TO THE PARTH.

The present moment is one that should induce even the most mufferent to lift their eyes and contemplate the splendor of the heavens. To-night Mars, which still retains its remarkable brilliancy, and Saturn wil herself, now within a few hours of full, will present a disk of unwonted silvery brightness. The farmers and it has, in consequence, received the name of "Harvest" moon. To-morrow evening she will appear in the full biaze of her glory. The irregularities or varia. tions on her face, indicating the existence of moun tains, valleys, ridges, craters and plains will not be visible, and the whole formation takes the character of a surface marking not distinguishable except in the very finest telescopes and under atmospheric condi-tions of great excellence. During the next lew nights our near companion in the solar system will hold a clear, mild and chaste countenance, and if the weather be fine give out an amount of light rarely equalled.

HARVESTING AFTER SUNSET.
The sun enters Libra to-morrow, and with it summer ends and autumn begins. The amount of heat we will now and for some months to come receive from the central luminary will depend principally upon the time he remains above the horizon, or, in other words, upon the length of the day. It has been observed at the near approach of the autumnal equinox (September 22) that the moon, instead of rising as it usually does, later on one day than on the preceding one, rises on three or four successive evenings just as the sun sinks out of sight in the evening. This phenomenon is owing to the fact that the moon is in Aries when the part of the ecliptic below the horizon makes the least angle with it. The farmer, busy with his harvest, an opportunity is given him for several evenings with light sufficient to conhis operations after sunset in former times husbandmen, not doubting that it so ordered on purpose to give them an increased supply of moonlight for their greater convenience in reap ing the fruits of the earth gave the name of "Harvest" moon to this particular full moon. The gathering in of the harvest has been in Europe from time iminemorial a joyous time, and one when hospitality is practised with more good will than at any other season. The custom has been when the work was com-

practised with more good will than at any other season. The custom has been when the work was complete to give a least to all hands, male and female, and the anticipation of this onjoyment generally incited the laborers in the field to greater exertions. Though Shakespeare calls the moon "cold and fruitless," it will be seen that farmers count largely upon her assistance, and up to a late period the planting of crops, the cutting down of wood and other such important matters were regulated by the appearance of our satclifte. In fact it was considered a necessary part of practical knowledge and ignorance or neglect of lunar indications would infallibly lead to loss and disappointment. HAVE WE ANOTHER SAVELLITE?

The recent discovery of two satcliftes of Mars lends interest to the question, is the moon the only satelite of the earth? It is what astronomers have long held, and, indeed, all the planets known to our solar system, and with still greater reason all the luminous points with which the celestial wall its spangled are at almost incomprehensible distances. Venus at its least distance is yet more than twenty-four millions of miles, that is to say, 100 times turther removed than the moon. Mars, now at its closest point, is thirty-three millions of miles removed from the earth, or about 145 times greater than the moon. These are the planets nearest to our globe. But, besides the celestial bodies whose orbits have been calculated, there are in our solar system innumerable amail bodies which move around the sun at a distance from it not far from that of the earth. These meteors or shooting stars are so many satellites of the earth which are drawn away, so to speak, by the earth from the more crowded hosts which revolve in troops ground the sun. The phenomenon of meteors, it may be said, yet remains a subject of discussion among scientists.

A contravior to the carth, this companion of the moon, revolves around us in a period that would not be moon, revolves around us in a period that would not an an account and

been able to obtain a sufficient amount of Jata. This singular satellite of the earth, this companion of the moon, revoives around us in a period that would not exceed three hours and twenty minutes, and its distance from the centre of our globe, according to M. Petit, is \$,000,000 miles. In such case the moon would not be the only companion of the earth in its annual journey through space, and we would have near to us, then, minor moons, whose illuminated faces would be visible when they were not cellpsed, which would occur quite rarely, since their orbits would not be very much inclined to the orbit of the earth.

STARR KING'S SERMONS

BOSTON, Sept. 19, 1877.

"Christianity and Humanity," the volume of Starr King's sermons which James R. Osgood & Co. will publish next Saturday, is of interest to all Universalists, inasmuch as it is the work of one who in his time was one of their best preachers; to lovers of Nature, because he was one of her most devout worshippers; to abolitionists, because his voice was always uplifted in behalf of the oppressed; to New Yorkers, because he was a native of their city. He was the son of the Rev. Thomas Farrington King, a Universalist clergy man of the Restorationist type, and a fervent preacher of renunciation for Christ's sake. In the elder King's day the salary of a Universalist clergyman was seidem very munificent, and when he died in Charlestown, in 1839, his son found himself, at the age of fifteen, at the head of a family in which there were five other children, very little practical knowledge of the world and very little skill in finance, He became a salesman in a dry goods shop, then a teacher in a grammar school, then a clerk in the Navy Yard, contributing to the support of his mother and sisters and brothers, and managed to keep the family above water until better days. He studied theology in an informal fashion, was ordained at the age of twenty-one and before he was twenty-two was called to the pulpit which, since his father's death, had been occupied by

His biographer and editor, Edwin P. Whinnle, has collected twenty-two of his best and brightest sermons, and has prefaced them by a memoir such as Boston is inclined to think that only Whipple could write-a wise, kindly critical notice. "I nardly know," he says, "how to speak of his moral and spiritual qualities; for, noble as they were, they were not detached from his mind, but pervaded it." "He seemed to have no fear, not even the subtlest form which it assumes in our day, the fear of being thought airaid."
"Malignity was a spiritual vice of which I have some times doubted if he had even the mental perception. "le the full speed of his victorious career, with the blessings of a nation raining upon him, he was arrested by death. The rich and abounding life suddenly summoned to the Source of Life and happy to go. Human willingness could hardly answer the Divine will with more perfect submission, and it is not for us who remember with what a shock of inexpressible grief and pain that unexpected departure smote the hearts of kindred and friends, but who also remember how often from his pulpit and from his lips we have been taught that the purpose of Providence in send ing death is always beneficent, to doubt that the stroke—so heavy to us, so happy to him—was transcendent mystery, and not seeking to penetrate is, et us find consolution in the faith that this child of light has been caught up into the light incliable; that this preacher of the religion of spiritual joy has en-tered into the joy of his Lord."

MORE MORMONS COMING.

The steamship Wisconsin, of the Williams & Guion line, which lest Queenstown vesterday and is due here next Friday, brings among her passengers 200 Latter Day Sanats, who are on route for Sait Lake City. Mr. W. C. Staines, Mormon Emigration Agent of Utah, arrived yesterday, from Utah to receive and forward them. It is reported that several notable saints accommany the party.

BEFORE PLEVNA.

Russian Dead Rotting on the Battleflields.

TURKISH BARBARISM.

The Roumanians in Bulgaria-Bulgarian Civilization.

PORADIN, HEADQUARTERS OF GENERAL ZORTOFF, BEFORE PLEVNA, August 10, 1877. Some English and an American correspondent were not a little surprised early yesterday morning on re ceiving a polite intimation from General Zortoff's chief of staff that he had a very interesting expedition in view in which he wished them to take part. Weary of waiting so long inactive they greeted the message with acciamations of joy, and, leaving their breakfast of black bread, honey and tchai half finished, proceeded without delay to the General's headquarters. They found Colonel Novitzky, the chief of staff, apparently expecting them. He said he was happy to se them all, and asked them to be seated terday," commenced the Colonel, "His Im-perial Highness, the Communder-in-Chief, sent to General Zortoff a letter which he had received from a Turkish prisoner now interned in Russia, giving assurances to his friends at home of the kind treatment which he and his companious were receiving at the hands of the Russians. This letter the Grand hands of a parliamentaire, to the Turkish commander at Plevna, with the further communication from His Imperial Highness that he hoped Russian prisoners would receive similar treatment in their captivity among the Turks. At the same time His Im perial Highness had commanded that permission should be conricously requested of the Turks for the Russiaus to bury their dead, which since the last battle have been left unburied, putrifying in the hot sun, creating, as a matter of course, an unbearable stench. Novitzky told the correspondents that an attempt had been made to carry out the Grand Duke's bettests, but it had tailed. Staff Captain Pelegrint, he said, accom panied by two buglers, two bussars and a doctor who spoke Turkish, had been despatched with a white flag for the purpose of parleying with the Turks and carry ing out the suggestions of the imperial Commander in Chief. Captain Pelegrin, to whom the correspond ents were introduced, then said that he had preceeded with his little escort to the vicinity of the village of Griwitz, and at a respectful distance from the outposts he waved his flag, the bugles were sounded and he waited anxiously the result. An answer was an officer being sent out to meet him, but by a sharp discharge of bullets, some of which whizzed past his head in dangerous proximity. Captain Pelegrint or dered the trumpeters to sound two further calls, and then, seeing the lutility of further exposing himself, retired. Now, said Colonel Novitzky, the General has thought over this matter. As the Imperial Commanderin-Chief's orders are imperative, and the Turks seem to take such delight in firing at Russian parliament aires, he thinks that if you English gentlemen would undertake this duty of delivering the letter and the messages you would be doing an invaluable service to the cause of humanity at large. There would be no danger, for the Turks, you know, have a vast admiration for you. We will, however, excuse our American friend here who, possibly, if the Turks got hold of him, might suffer serious bodily injury. Now, gentlemen, what do you say? Are you willing to undertake this mission for us? There was i pause on both sides, for the correspondents were, to tell the truth, somewhat dumblounded. There was humanitarian mission to accomplish, there was possibly lame and name to be won in a day, there was the brilliant Cross of St. George almost within grasp, and yet no one responded joyously to the call.
After the correspondents had recovered somewhat from their surprise they replied that glad as they manity they had at the same time duties to perform to their journals, which duty was, first of all, to live and to send accounts of battle and bloodshed, but no to die or place themselves unnecessarily in danger, and thus deprive their employers of their services. The Colonel saw naturally enough the force of the argument, and invited the correspondents to take tea at heauquarters at a later hour. Unfortunately a heavy thunder and rain storm prevented them from leaving their quarters during the evening, and the rain is still

their dead is still unburied on the battle fields, and they have sworn that in the coming- struggle they will

failing, after eighteen hours of incessant pouring down,

making us all inexpressibly uncomfortable and un-

in the valleys, which, after this beavy rainfall,

must have been transformed into vast swamps.

The condition of the corpses on the battle field will,

I presume, after the rain, be something horrible un-

less the dogs, the crows and the vultures have by this time done their work, which, however, is not prob

able, taking into account the large number of the

dead. Imagine, if you can, even a thousand dead hav-

ing laid rotting in the sun for nearly fourteen days,

and the decomposed parts now being washed away by

this drenching, pouring, unceasing rain, and your

mind will be filled with deep indignation at the barbar-

ism of the Turks, who arrogantly disregard the uni-

versal custom of civilized wariare and permit

Hitherto the Russian army has been re-

markably free from disease. Cases of dysen-

can tell, after these rains, and the bloody struggle has

to be fought over these stinking fields of corpses what

terrible diseases may not be developed ? Perhaps it is

a part of the Turkish commander's plan to spread

pestilence in the ranks of the invaders by means of

their own rotting dead! The Russian troops are

wroth when they hear of the atrocities that have been

committed on their wounded, when they learn that

ROUMANIA AND BUSSIA.

give no quarter.

pestilence to breed under their very

tery have hitherto been very rare, but

PORADIN, August 11, 1877. The Roumanians are at last to have a share in the glory of Russia's Turkish campaign. One division of the Roumanian army has already crossed the Danube, and another is to come over in a few days, and after the two divisions are united they will occupy a posttion on the right wing of the Russian army now resting before Pievna. Not many weeks ago-nay, not many days ago-and no one dreamed that fortune would thus have favored the Roumanians, who were generally, it must be admitted, looked upon the Russians with ill-concealed contempt. The Reumanians had, indeed, begun to ask themselves seriously what was to be the end? For if Russia occupied Bulgaria then it became a necessity that she should have the right to cross Roumanian territory at any time, and Roumania would thus become simply a neutral pendant of the great Empire. The Roumanians began to lear for their future, and it has been this fear, the conviction that it was necessary to do something to assert their own right to existence, that made them so anxious for months past to make the nation a name and to gain for it military glory. They were very anxious to cross the Danube in e manner similar to the Russians at Simnitza; they ordered pontoons and anchors by the score, and 50,000 men waited only the command of Prince Charles and the permission of Russia to make a splurge in the world's history. People wondered, and wonder still why they did nothing, but it was generally known that Russia bad no intention of allowing any of her own giory to be shared by the small nation which she had so good naturedly petted and used. Now, however, the Roumanians find thomselves in a very fortunate position. The serious defeat given to Baron Kradener's army by the Turks before Plevna, the inability of the Russians to weaken their forces around Jumia, Rustchuk and near the Balkans, and the ne cossity of gathering a stronger torce at Pievna, have all combined to comjet the Russian Commander in Chief to pertait the Roumanian allies to take an active part in the campaign. The Roumanians are naturally jubiant, not so much at the Russian defeats as at the opportunity these deleats have thus given them. True, the Roumanian troops are young and have had no ex. perience in serious warfare, but the soldiers are not a had body of men and may possibly be able to accom-

dish something. They are not Russians by any means; in character and physique they more resemble the Italian. They are, however, no match for the Turks, who, it may be presumed, will pay them considerable attention during the next battle.

> BULGARIAN CIVILIZATION. PORADIN, August 11, 1877.

PORADIX, August 11, 1877.

Still here, waiting in weariness for something to happen, and there is absolutely nothing to chronicle but the reinfall, which must delay any important movement of the troops for some days to come. No one unacquainted with the dreary desolation of a Bulgarian village can have the desay desolation of a Bulgarian village. garian village can have the slightest idea of the wretchedness of existence in Poradin. It is not wretchedness brought about by the war; but apparently the normal state of things. I have long since given up the hope of developing any enthusiasm in my own mind for our Bulgarian fellow Christians, and have no particular wish to see them again, at lea not for many years to come. Though it is true that these people have been kept in degrading subjection by the Mohammedan rulers for decades it is no less true that they will have to be kept in as stern (though perhaps not so degrading) subjection for years to come before they may profitably lay the slightest claim to freedom. Sell-government, the very far future for Buigaria. It must be remem-bered that the people, as a rule, can neither read nor stitious. The dirty children run about all day long in They grow up in an ignorance and duil stupidity of which a Kaffir might be ashamed, and as old men they become maundering imbeclies fit for nothing but to drive cattle to the plains or to sleep in the sun outside or on the top of their mud cave dwellings. It is not so much the sun of freedom that is wanted here as the stern despotic ruler who shall drive the people to school, shall teach them to labor and to live. Suppose for a moment that Bulgaria should receive its freedom, that it should have a kind of Who would be elected? I will be bound to say that every young scamp of a Bulgarian who is now serving as courier and bottle-washer in general to the corre spondents would be found in his seat as a representative of the people, and, having received his education in Roumann, he would know well how to take care of his own interests even if his country should go to the dogs. If Russia remains in Bulgaria she will do an invaluable service to the people if she rules with a despotic hand for some decades to come, first educating the people and then permitting them to enjoy freedom when they have learned to know what freedom and its duties signify. The red Indian would be quite as good a hand at self-government as the Buigarian. In fact, there are Indian chiefs who show spirit and intelligence, but it would be difficult to find anybody here who has been able to raise himself even slightly above the common barbarousness of the great herd. There are in Tirnova some bazaar keepers who dress themselves something after the European fashion and who have even the audacity to wear chimney pot hats, but they are generally found to be as ignorant and stupid and obstinate as the peasants of the villages, who, if ignorance is bliss, are the happiest folk in the world. It is a dreary, desolate land, this side of the Baikans, the home of a race that is decaying, not of a young people pressing on to great deeds and civilized existence. It is scarcely possible that Bulgaria can become a great country out of itself-out of its own inherent capacity. Only by the infusion of new doinmant blood, by the strength of a strong and more intellectual race, can we hope to see Bulgaria raised to a respectable position among the States of the world.

THE BAIN IT BAINETH.

AUGUST 12, 1877. General Skobeleff came in last night, attended by a few Cossacks, having left the main part of his com-mand six or seven miles behind. It was the first time left is that he is one of the most genial as well as the most skilful generals of the Russian army. His bravery will in time become legendary. He always wears his white uniform when he goes into the figut and rides white steeds, of which he has already had our shot under him during the present campaign. During the reconnoiseance which he made within the orses shot under him within the space of twenty minutes. He is, in truth, a man sans peur et sans re by the army; whom men will follow whether he leads to victory or to death. In appearance he is very fair board. He sits his horse magnificently, and is one of the most daring riders of the army. He it was who swam his horse over the Danube when the army rossed over at Simnitza, and during the late defeat of Kradener's army he and his Cossacks, who were on the left wing, even entered the town of Plevna His last reconnoissance was a marveitously brave affair, and he exposed himself unnecesprogress. Returning to Foradin yesterday he found a stream which he had forded with artillery two days before swollen to the volume of a mighty stream, seventy yards wide. Though he was compelled to leave his artillery behind he immediately set an example to his men by taking off his coat, and plunging on the stream swam with his horse across to the other bank. Strange to say, Skobeleff-Young Skobeleff he is usually styled in order to distinguish him from his ather-has not yet been intrusted with an important command. This is due, it is said, in great part to cour jeniousies and intrigues. A few more generals of the same material as Skobeleff would, however, be now of immense service to the Russian arm, now standing checked in Bulgaria. We just learn here that Prince Gourkab has been compelled by Suleiman Pacha to retire to the foot of the Balkans after being defeated. But this will be old news to you, for the officers of the staff, though very prompt in informing us of victories, are marvellously silent about reverses. But I suppose this is as it should be.

MUNICIPAL NOTES.

Mayor Ely has vetoed a resolution of the Aldermen providing for the erection of two additional lamps in front of the church corner of Park avenue and Thirtyninth street, on the sensible ground that "there are now ten lamps in tront of this church,"

The fifth session of the Tweed Aldermanic Investigating Committee will commence at two o'clock this niternoon. According to present appearances, it is probable that this examination will occupy the baltince of the present year

The following contracts were yesterday awarded by

the Department of Public Works:-Flagging, &c., Seventy-ninth street, between avenue A and Second avenue, to John Slattery, at \$2,153 85; regulating Eighty-sixth street from Eighth avenue to Boulevard, to John Mulholland, at \$14,372 76; paving Fourth street from Lewis to Mangin streets, to Charles P. Devlin, at \$2,243 50; paving 103d street from Lexington to Fourth avenue, and Lexington avenue from 103d to 104th street, to Dennis Mctsrath, at \$3,218 57; paving 121st street, between First avenue and avenue A, to Dennis McGrath, at \$2,567 88.

A warrant for \$50,791 66 was yesterday signed by Comptroiler Kelly for use of the Police Department, to be applied to street cleaning for the present month.

KINGS COUNTY FINANCES.

A complete statement of the financial transactions of Kings county during the fiscal year ending July 31, 1877, was submitted to the Board of Supervisors of Brooklyn yesterday afternoon by County Tresaurer Gardiner. The statement gives a detailed account of receipts and disbursements, as well as the bonded debts of the county. It contains also an account of the trust moneys placed under Mr. Garainer's control by the courts. These funds accumulated from intigation, and are given to him as custodian for the owners, who

Payments during the same period\$3,826,251
Baiance in the treasury, August 1, 1877 26,269

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY. FORMAL OPENING YESTERDAY-ADVICE TO THE

STUDENTS. "Art is long and life is short," quoted Rev. Dr. Schaff, of the Union Theological Seminary, in his opening address to the students of that institution yesterday. He added, however, that life is long enough to attain its purpose—to do all the good we are capable of doing and are expected to do. The greatest art was the art of living, and that consisted in making the temporary life on earth a foretaste of the everlasting life in heaven. Many men made such failures of their lives that it would have their experience. Those who began right generally ended right. The two proverbs "All beginning is difficuit," and "Beginning is the only difficulty," were equally true and supplemented each other. The art of study was an essential part of life to all who were

equally true and supplemented each other. The art of study was an essential part of life to all who were called to the higher professions. There were three classes of educated men—the God-taught, the school-taught and the schi-taught—but none of them could come without study. They must study the Book of God and the book of fuman nature. System, enthusiasm, moral clevation, faith and prayer were the essential elements of successful study, especially for the study of theology, the nodest of all.

Br. Schaff proceeded to give the students some practical advice. First they should study systematically, the proverb said "Time was money," It was much more than money, for time lost could not be replaced, while money could. "Be regular," said he, "in all your habits; panetual in all your spoolintments. Sleep no longer than is necessary for your health. Make a wise distribution of your day between study and recreation and allot each branch of study its appropriatime. Get up early and keep wide awake during the day." The Doctor then spoke of the appalling spread of scepticism in this and other lands, but encouraged his hearers by reminding them that God was stronger than His adversaries. Prayer he commended above all other practices. "Study," said he, "makes a scholar, prayor makes a saint."

Rev. Dr. Adams, the venerable President of the institution, made a lew remarks, in the course of which he urged the necessity of plodding, routine daily study, and warned the students against the habit so many have of looking away into the future, seeing there the wonders they are to perform, and discounting their hopes in the present.

Forty-three new students enter this term, and the institution is in a flourishing condition. The exercises yestercay were attended by a large number of the laity and many well known clergymen. Rev. Drs. Adams, Hitchcook, Shedd, Schaff, Prentiss and Briggs of the faculty occupied seats on the platform, and in the audience were Rev. Drs. Taylor, of the Broadway Tabernacle; Bevin, of the Brick Church; Ru

OBSEQUIES OF WILLIAM L. WILEY,

The luneral exercises over the remains of William . Wiley occurred yesterday morning in St. Michael's Episcopai Church, Grand Boulevard and Ninety-ninth street. Rev. Dr. Peters, the venerable paster of the enurch, officiated, and read the burial service with tender and touching effect. The choir of youths at first and maidens next sang the appropriate hymna and performed the formula of the Episcopal buriat ionies so far as attached to themselves, in ar exemplary manner. The remains were escorted from the deceased's late residence in Seventy-second street by carriages containing the relatives and mourners, and by a procession on foot composed of an anusual number of prominent city officials and ex-officials. The pallocarers were General Daniel E. Sickles, who walked on his crutches beside the corpse of his old friend; Judgs J. R. Brady, Siro Deimonico, Thomas J. Brown, Dewitt C. Graham, Jordan L. Mott, Thomas Dunlap, John Chambers, John Mullaly, David L. Baker and Theodore E. Tominison. Prominent among the audience (for the church was crowned to overflowing) were Hon. Fernando Wood, H. K. Thurber, Gommissioner Nichols, ex-Mayor Tiemann, Commissioners Cox and Brennan, of the Board of Chartities and Correction; ex-Police Commissioner Thomas C. Actoh. Thomas Wiley, Assessor North, Jerome Buck, John P. O'Neil and M. J. McKenna, of the Surrogate's office; Judson Jarvis, William Jay Barker, Police Inspectors Dilks and Thorae, Police Captain Sievert, Police Captain Mount; Sorgeant Walsh, with a plateon of twelve policement, Harry Kelly, Richard Morrison, of the Cuty Record; ex-Assemblyman Hauschell, Counsellor Fox, Dr. C. M. O'Leary, Sheppard F. Knapp, D. P. Dixon, the members of the Boulevard Club and a large number of others, including many laddes.

The coeffu was of rich mahogany, bearing a silver exemplary manner. The remains were escorted from The coffin was of rich mahogany, bearing a silver

plate with this simple inscription:

WILLIAM L. WILLEY.

Died September 17, 1877.

aged fitty-four years.

At the request of the family there were no floral presents, the only testimonial in that respect being the presentation of a floral design representing a broken column from the General Committee of the Nineteenth ward. The remains were taken to Greenwood Cemetery, where they will be interred by the side of his son, whose obsequies took place in the same church only one week previously.

A CUBAN'S FUNERAL

The funeral of Dr. Ramon Amobile, of No. 21 City Hall place, took place yesterday afternoon from St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church, the services being conducted by Rev. Dr. Curran. Prominent among the friends of the deceased present at the services were Commissioner Brennan and Dr. James Wood, of Bellevue Hospital. A large number of Cubans were also present, among whom were Dieja Moy and Huario Cisairos, cousins of the deceased, Dr. Andrew Montes, Blas Trujilio and others. After the funeral services Bias Trujillo and others. After the luneral services the remains were borne to Calvary Cemetery, where the interment took place.

FATHER MOONEY'S WILL,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-In your issue this day you say that the late Rev. Thomas J. Mooney bequeathed to His Eminence Cardinal McCloskey and his successors eight lots of ground on the northeasterly corner of Second avenue and 105th street. In connection with this singular piece of information the following facts may not be levaid of interest to some of your readers. The property referred to is the same on which the Church of it. Cecilia is situate, and the people of that parish are

of the opinion that there has been paid for it as much as it has ever been worth, and more, in the estimation of competent judges, than the property would sell for at the present time. In matters of this sort figures speak best. Within twelve months from the time-May, 1873—when this property became connected with the Church there has been paid upon it the following amounts:—
1. To ex-Collector Thomas Murphy and others, through Mutual Life Insurance

lots described in your issue of this day as having been "bequeathed." Risum teneatis amict. Permit me to add that the assessments referred to had been levied long before the property became connected with the church, and that the taxes mentioned in above items were for 1871 and 1872.

H. FLATTERY, Pastor, St. Coollia's, New YORK, Sept. 20, 1877.

MORE ABOUT THE "OCEAN TRAMP," PORT JEFFERSON, Long Island, Sept. 20, 1877.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-In the HERALD of to-day is an article from the pro-

lific pen of Mr. Samuel L. Clemens contributed to the Hartford Courant, entitled "Mark Twain Soives the Mystery of the Bark Jonas Smith: 'An Ocean Tramp,' Only give Twain a chance and he will solve the mystery of anything in the known world, and much that is not. His little narrative only extends back to May 25, 1877, and Captain Angrove, of the steamship Bermuda, after he spoke the Jonas Smith, evidently played is on Twain. The water around Hartford is enplayed it on Twain. The water around Hariford is en-tirely too fresh, and Mark's kiess of shipping are de-cidedly dim after he leaves sait water and reaches that limpid stream opposite thariford, for a canal boat there, after passing under his observation, would a few days hence pass for a White Star steamship. The facts are these, and there is nothing mysterious about this craft either. The "bark" Jonas Smith happens to be a two masted schooner, owned entirely by a smart colored man of this place, Captain Christianson. She a two masted schooner, owned entirely by a smart colored man of this place, Captain Christianson. She was con emand at Hermuda, purchased by her captain, who came to New York and purchased good sails for her, took them back, and shortly after the Jonas Smith arrived at this port and was thoroughly overhauled. Leaving here she went to some Eastern port after ice, and about the 20th ult. was reported at Tarpaulin Gove with boom broken. The Jonas Smith doubtless beat the Bermuda into port, and this accounts for Mark's losing track of her, as she laid here about a month. Twan is very pat in his description of the Smith's outôt. He probably don't know a bobsialy from the mainbrace spice, although I incline to the opinion that he had been splicing on that very day, and was pretty well braced up, and when he came on deck and saw this excursion party alongside things suddenly doubled on him. Seriously, the Jonas Smith may have experienced heavy weather, and the pilot who recently spoke her, never having seen a vessel manned by colored men before, has allowed his brain to become overheated. Her mate is a white man from Setouket, L. I., and she will turn up all right in a few days without a doubt. to become overneased.

Setouck, L. I., and she will turn up all right in a few days without a doubt.

[The schooner Jones Smith is bound to Savannah

from Boston, and was noarded off Cape Romain on the 17th inst., and found without nautical instruments They had tost their reckoning, sails were somewhat torn and bottom loui, but otherwise is good condition, The necessary sailing instructions were given by the